

## **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF OLENTANGY TRAIL---THE FINAL GAP NORTHMOOR TO CLINTON COMO**

To: William Murdoch, Director  
MORPC  
Re: 2018 Transportation Alternatives Program

The Clintonville Area Commission strongly supports the funding of this project which will complete the Olentangy Trail which runs the full length of our part of the City of Columbus.

**This project will complete the region's heaviest used trail corridor.** Over 400,000 people each year pass by the West North Broadway/Milton area as they recreate, travel to jobs, to school, OSU, and all of the splendid parks along the Olentangy River. Residents who live in and around the West North Broadway/Milton intersection regularly witness accidents and close calls with cars and bicyclists and watch in fear for a fatality to happen.

**The trail's "work around" using Kenworth, Milton, Delhi, and Riverside Drive is not safe for the capacity of runners, walkers, cyclists, rollers, and especially families who navigate around this gap in the trail.** This area generates a shower of complaints from trail users, motorists, and those who live along this street route. **Conflicts occur often, incidents happen, and this project will serve as a huge solution to this problem.**

The residents of Clintonville support active lifestyles, varying modes of transportation, environmental protection and improving the quality of everyone's lives. The building of this trail improvement speaks to all of these concerns. The sustainable quality of life benefits achieved by completing this busiest trail in Ohio are significant.

**The CAC has been urging the city for years to look at the option of crossing the Olentangy River with a dedicated trail between Clinton Como Park and Northmoor Park.** The re-development of the west side of the Olentangy River corridor, adding thousands of new employees and residents, makes this connection imperative for the community, the employers, and the future residents of Clintonville. It is a once in a generation opportunity that we cannot afford to ignore. **The Clintonville Area Commission voted unanimously in January of 2018 to write Mayor Ginther** to encourage that this improvement be moved forward, and we're excited to see that Recreation and Parks is working to develop this project.

We are also hopeful that MORPC will fund this project as one complete project. Splitting this project into parts would only add to its expense and would not relieve the congestion and safety issues that we experience until its completion years in the future.

**This is a high priority project for our community's health, safety, and welfare, and we appreciate MORPC's consideration of the application.**